

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claim 11 as follows. Please cancel claims 20-24 without prejudice to continued prosecution. The claims and their status are shown below.

1-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A process for the identification of an anti-counterfeiting mark, comprising the steps of:

applying an anti-counterfeiting mark to a surface of a first substrate as a layer with electro-active metal atoms, ions, clusters or complex molecules, wherein the anti-counterfeiting mark is a first biopolymer,

contacting the first biopolymer with a second biopolymer applied as a layer with electro-active metal atoms, ions, clusters or complex molecules, wherein the second biopolymer has affinity to the first biopolymer, thereby generating a biopolymer-biopolymer complex,

applying an electrical current to the biopolymer-biopolymer complex, and

measuring an electrical property of the biopolymer-biopolymer complex, thereby identifying the presence or absence of the anti-counterfeiting mark.

12. (Previously presented) The process of claim 11, wherein the electrical current is a direct current.

13. (Previously presented) The process of claim 11, wherein the electrical current is an alternating current.

14. (Previously presented) The process of claim 11, wherein the electrical property measured is a change in impedance/conductivity.

15. (Previously presented) The process of claim 11, wherein the electrical property measured is a function of a superimposed alternating-voltage or alternating-current frequency.

16. (Previously presented) The process of claim 11, wherein the electrical property measured is a change in voltage.

17. (Previously presented) The process of claim 11, wherein the electrical property measured is a change in amplitude.

18. (Previously presented) The process of claim 11, wherein the electrical property measured is a change in phase.

Applicant : Wolf Bertling et al.
Serial No. : 10/049,693
Filed : June 17, 2002
Page : 3 of 8

Attorney's Docket No.: 10848-019001 / 412045GA-go

19. (Previously presented) The process of claim 11, wherein measuring the electrical property is carried out by a reference electrode and/or a counter-electrode.

20-24. (Canceled)